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25 MR. VASCONI: Again, my name is Bill Vasconi.

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1 I am a resident of Nevada. I've been a resident for 37
2 years. I was born and raised in the hills of
3 Pennsylvania. Attended 101st airborne, came and went
4 to work at Nevada test site for four years, radiation
5 monitor. I have some 17 years at the Nevada test site,
6 majority of them the testing site of the program.
7 The history, I have got a family here, three
8 kids. They're married to members of the opposite sex.
9 I've got six grandchildren. The only loss is the fact
10 that they all became Republicans. I don't know what to
11 say about that. I served in the state of Nevada, on
12 committees. I cannot be intimidated so say anything
13 you want to. I have served in Nevada on several
14 committees, environmental restoration, waste
15 management, board of directors of the NTS Development
16 Corporation, Nevada Test Site Historical Foundation. I
17 have served labor, I've served the Nuclear Waste Study
18 Committee. In Clark County, I'm a Clark County
19 resident. We don't have any problems here, do we? No,
20 hell no. 50 percent of the people that live in this

21 town have been here less than 10 years. Their concerns
22 are this: Traffic, water, jobs, crime, schools.

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23 Schools. Schools. Think about schools. We're in a
24 service industry here. Why aren't we giving our young
25 people that graduate from high school an opportunity to
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1 provide themselves an education a long-term job beyond
2 that of taxi driver, bed changer, bartender, working
3 for the casinos? With an educational system built
4 around Yucca Mountain, we can to that.

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: What?

6 MR. VASCONI: Those of you who do not
7 consider nuclear waste a national issue, address this,
8 if you will. We've had 50 years of nuclear waste,
9 defense waste from development of nuclear weapons, fuel
10 rods by the U.S. Navy. You do realize we have 70
11 nuclear-powered submarines. 10 nuclear-powered
12 aircraft carriers. We also have 81 research and
13 medical reactors in universities. That's a national
14 problem. There are those Nevadans that consider
15 themselves not a part of this nation's nuclear issues
16 and concerns. But may well be the designated solution
17 for future generations of Nevadans and Americans. Some

18 Nevadans, I among them, see YMP as a viable solution to
19 this nation's nuclear issues and concerns. Nuclear
20 waste, no. Nuclear waste, perhaps. We feel that they
21 are those opposed to hosting the repository, but also
22 they believe the YMP will be built if found
23 scientifically suitable.

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24 Nevadans are in firm support. 80 percent of
25 want a strong role by the scientists of the state
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1 university and college systems and the scientific
2 oversight and analysis. Scientists -- Nevadans have
3 confidence in the State University system and believe
4 it should have a vested interest in the studies, the
5 operation, the monitoring, the health and safety, the
6 environmental issues of the project. What's
7 unfortunate is that our elected officials to this date
8 have not done anything to protect Nevadans, including
9 support for the safest transportation routes, securing
10 funding for emergency management programs throughout
11 the state. Let us maximize the benefits that can be
12 realized by our states, the counties and the
13 communities, as a result of the scientific and
14 technological expertise that has been developed at the

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15 Nevada test site over the last five decades.
16 Scientific studies conclude YMP provides a unique
17 opportunity for Nevadans for equity benefits for the
18 people. Meaningful dialogue should be initiated
19 securing compensation to the State of Nevada. This
20 equity package list should include increased funding to
21 affected units of local government from the Nuclear
22 Waste Fund for local impact and environmental studies.
23 World class environmental and energy research centers
24 in UNLV.

25 MODERATOR LAWSON: 30 seconds, please.

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1 MR. VASCONI: Federal funding for
2 state-of-the-art emergency response program, water
3 rights issues.

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Oncology lab.

5 MR. VASCONI: Are Nevadans informed of YMP
6 issues? No. As for politicians, I question who works
7 for whom. Is YMP progressing? Yes. Why aren't
8 Nevadans involved with solution? Everyone has an
9 opinion. But the opinions should be based on
10 substance. The State and the anti-s always focus on
11 the process. This is a standard intervention technique

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12 that demonstrates their lack of legitimate scientific
13 or technological problems with the projects. The
14 State's credibility is at a loss. We need leadership
15 that deals with the YMP issues with some common sense
16 and reality options. Realities of Yucca Mountain are
17 far more dangerous than the political games being
18 played.

19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Time's up.

20 MR. VASCONI: In conclusion, when the dust
21 settles --

22 MODERATOR LAWSON: Okay, okay.

23 MR. VASCONI: In conclusion, when the dust
24 settled, and if Yucca Mountain becomes this nation's
25 first nuclear repository, then what is the plan?

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1 Nevadans' legislators need to re-examine it, strengthen
2 our environmental concerns, as the opportunity to make
3 the best out of this situation will soon be history as
4 well.